

**MINUTES OF THE
MENDHAM BOROUGH ECOSST
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, November 6, 2023
Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham, NJ**

CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE

The Regular meeting of the Mendham Borough ECOSST was called to order at 7:30 p.m. and the open public meeting statement was read into the record.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Arena	Present	Mr. Tracy	Present
Ms. Mundy	Present	Mr. Foerster	Absent
Mr. Metzler	Present	Mr. Morris	Present
Mr. Wells	Absent	Mr. D'Urso	Present

MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Tracy, seconded by Mr. Metzler and unanimously carried by voice vote to adopt the Minutes of the October 2, 2023 meeting, as presented.

ROLL CALL

In Favor: Mr. Arena, Mr. Metzler, and Mr. Tracy.

Opposed:

Abstain: Ms. Mundy and Mr. Morris

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Arena opened the meeting to the public for questions and comments on items not included on the agenda.

- A. Mr. Morris, Boy Scout from Troop #130, explained that the Eagle Scout project was completed and showed the group the pictures of the completed project that was done at Scott Farm.
- B. Mr. Zammataro, 41 Corey Ln, representing Mendham Alliance for Preservation and Conservation. Mr. Zammataro explained that he is working with Raritan Headwaters regarding the impact of the aquatic animals in the vernal pools adjacent to the new King apartment project. Mr. Zammataro would like to certify the vernal pools in this location and would like ECOSST to support them. Mr. Zammataro explained that the group is about smart and sustainable development.
- C. Mr. Van Den Hende, 11 Coventry Rd., explained that at the last Council meeting a backyard maintenance ordinance was introduced with a 15' back yard clearance requirement and would like to point out that off Coventry there is the Passaic River backyard section. Mr. Van Den Hende would like to know how this ordinance would apply to those areas basically because it is a nature preserve and according to the ordinance the sides of the Passaic River would need to be mowed and if ECOSST has a concern. Mr. Metzler noted that the ordinance is vague in his opinion and the issues should be brought to the next Council meeting.

There being no further comments, public comment was closed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Work Groups Reports

- a. Open Space / Farmland Preserve
 - i. No Update.
- b. Environmental
 - i. Mr. Metzler reviewed 2 applications from the Joint Land Use Board and found no environmental impact.
 - ii. Mr. Metzler noted that the Mayor and Council approved the request to file an appeal for the V-Fee Apartments NJDEP permit approval.
 - i) Mr. Zammataro noted that on the Plot Plan there is mention of a Plan B is noted on top of Kings and there are no drawings or documents indicating what they plan to do.
- c. Shade Tree
 - i. Ms. Smith noted that there is a Shade Tree Photo Contest that ends December 1st.

B. Project Group Report

- a. Scott Farm
 - i. Mr. Arena stated that the scout project has been completed and the walking path is continuing to be developed.
- b. Recycling/Clean Communities Outreach Program
 - i. A member of the audience suggested composting for after the Holidays. She suggested Neighborhood Compost and Java's Compost which are 2 companies that do composting.
- c. Service Projects (Scout Liaison)
 - i. Mr. Lawrence stated that Ian will be doing his project of building picnic benches at Scott Farm in the spring.
 - ii. Mr. D'Urso suggested raised beds for a community garden at MASH would be a good Eagle project.
 - iii. A member of the audience suggested Monarch gardens and stated that there are milk weeds at India Brook park.
- d. Trails
 - i. No Updates.
- e. Events Calendar
 - i. Paper and Tech Shredding- April 6, 2024 from 9 AM -1 PM
- f. Methodist Church Property
 - i. Mr. Tracy stated that the DPW cleared the underbrush and identified 30 trees for removal.

- g. Community Wildlife Habitat
 - i. No Updates
 - ii. A member of the audience volunteered to help.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Metzler, seconded by Ms. Mundy and unanimously carried to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Smith

Land Use Coordinator